

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Y. KYUUKO, et al.

Serial No: 10/559,577

Filed: December 2, 2005

Title: METHOD FOR PRODUCING OPTICALLY ACTIVE CHROMAN-CARBOXYLATE

Group: 1651

Examiner: Sandra E. SAUCIER

Conf. No.: 2694

**RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 25, 2008

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 25, 2008, Applicants respectfully elect Specie i) as set forth in the second paragraph on page 2 thereof, i.e., 6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchroman-2-carboxylic acid. This election is made with traverse, as set forth in the following.

Specifically, Applicants respectfully traverse the conclusion by the Examiner that the listed species lack unity of invention because they "lack the same or corresponding special technical features". Note the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action mailed March 25, 2008. It is respectfully submitted that the species have the common chroman structure, and the present invention can be applied to the chromancarboxylic acid represented by formula (1) on page 3 of Applicants' specification. In view of this common feature in the various species, it is respectfully submitted that the